

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-01 /005 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 069115

FOL REPEAT NEW DELHI 4323 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BOMBAY  
CINCPAC CALCUTTA HONG KONG LONDON MADRAS MOSCOW PEKING  
ISLAMABAD DTD 26 MAR.

QUOTE

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 4323

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, IN  
SUBJECT: TRANSCRIPT OF FOREIGN POLICY SECTION OF DESAI'S  
PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: NEW DELHI 4311 (NOTAL)

FOLLOWING ARE FOREIGN POLICY EXCERPTS FROM OFFICIAL  
TRANSCRIPT OF MORARJI DESAI'S MARCH 24 PRESS CONFERENCE.

NON-ALIGNMENT:  
QUESTION: DO YOU ENVISAGE ANY CHANGE IN FOREIGN POLICY?  
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PRIME MINISTER: THE FOREIGN POLICY OF NON-ALIGNMENT IS THERE  
FOR INDIA. IT WILL BE A PROPER NON-ALIGNMENT POLICY. THAT  
IS, IT WILL BE FULLY NON-ALIGNED, NO SUSPICION OF ANY  
ALIGNMENT WITH ANYBODY. THAT IS HOW WE WILL HAVE  
TO WORK IT.

INDO-SOVIET TREATY:

Q: WILL YOU BE MORE SPECIFIC ABOUT INDIA'S FUTURE RELATIONS WITH THE SUPER POWERS - UNITED STATES AND SOVIET UNION? AND SPECIFICALLY, DO YOU SEE ANY CHANGE IN THE STATUS OR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INDO-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP TREATY?

PM: IF INDO-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP TREATY INVOLVES ANY WANT OF FRIENDSHIP WITH THE OTHERS, THEN IT WILL HAVE TO BE CHANGED. AT LEAST, WE WILL NOT ACT UPON IT IN THAT MANNER. IT MUST NOT COME IN THE WAY OF OUR FRIENDSHIP WITH ANY OTHER STATE. AND THAT IS HOW WE WILL WORK IT. BUT WE CANNOT DISOWN WHAT HAS BEEN DONE BY THE PAST GOVERNMENT IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS LIKE THAT. BUT IF THERE IS ANYTHING WHERE WE FIND THAT IT HURTS THE INTERESTS OF INDIA AND ITS RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, THEN WE WILL CERTAINLY NOT DO IT. THEN IT IS LEFT TO RUSSIA TO DO WHATEVER THEY WANT TO DO.

Q: IF I MAY FOLLOW UP MY QUESTION, DO YOU ENVISAGE THAT GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WILL BE MORE RECEPTIVE TO WESTERN INVESTMENT?

PM: THESE ARE VERY BLANKET QUESTIONS AND YOU CANNOT GET A REPLY FROM ME NOW.

NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS:

Q: WHAT IS YOUR GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON THE QUESTION OF NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS?

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PM: WE DO NOT BELIEVE IN ATOMIC WEAPONS AT ALL. THAT POLICY STANDS. I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER IT IS NECESSARY TO HAVE NUCLEAR EXPLOSION FOR PEACEFUL PRUPoses. IF IT IS NOT NECESSARY, IT SHOULD NEVER BE DONE.

INDIANOCEAN:

Q: INDIA'S POLICY IN REGARD TO THE INDIAN OCEAN HAS BEEN BIASED AGAINST THE USA AND IT HAS NOT PAID SUFFICIENT ATTENTION TO THE MILITARY ACTIVITIES OF THE SOVIET UNION IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AND THE ADJACENT STATES.

PM: WELL, TWO WRONGS DO NOT MAKE ONE RIGHT. THE U.S. ALSO SHOULD REALISE THAT THEY SHOULD NOT HAVE THEIR ACTIVITIES HERE AND WE SHOULD ALSO HAVE THAT SOVIET RUSSIA ALSO SHOULD NOT HAVE THEIR ACTIVITIES. WE SHOULD HAVE EQUAL TREATMENT FOR BOTH AND THEREFORE

ON THAT SCORE I HAVE NO DOUBT. I CANNOT SAY WHAT THE ACTUAL POSITION IS JUST NOW BECAUSE I HAVE NOT STUDIED IT. YOU DO NOT EXPECT ME TO BE COMPLETELY WISE ON EVERYTHING ON THE FIRST DAY OF MY ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE.

UNITED STATES:

Q: YOU HAVE SPOKEN ABOUT THE FOREIGN POLICY.....

PM: YOU SEEM TO BE STUCK ON FOREIGN POLICY.

Q: YOU SPOKE ABOUT THE FUTURE RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION. I WAS WONDERING HOW YOU ENVISAGE THE RELATIONS WITH THE U.S.

PM: THE RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES WILL BE CORDIAL AND GOOD PROVIDED THEY ALSO RECIPROCATE. IS THAT SATISFACTORY? WE WON'T ALLOW OUR RELATIONS WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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ONE COUNTRY TO COME IN THE WAY OF RELATIONS WITH ANOTHER COUNTRY. IS THAT ALL RIGHT? WE WILL NOT HAVE ANY SPECIAL RELATIONS WITH ANY COUNTRY. IS THAT ALL RIGHT? DO YOU WANT ANYTHING MORE?

Q: NO, SIR.

PM: ALL RIGHT, THANK YOU.

MIDDLE EAST:

Q: WHAT IS YOUR POLICY ON THE QUESTION OF INDO-ARAB RELATIONS?

PM: WE WILL HAVE OUR ATTITUDE OF SEEING WHO IS RIGHT AND WHO IS WRONG. WE WILL SUPPORT WHOEVER IS RIGHT AND NOT SUPPORT WHO IS WRONG.

Q: ON THE SPECIFIC QUESTION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL.....

PM: I THINK WE SHOULD HAVE UNIFORM RELATIONS WITH ALL PEOPLE.

Q: DO YOU THINK DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL.....

PM: WE HAVE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH MANY PEOPLE. WE CANNOT GO ON INCREASING OUR EXPENDITURE EVERY TIME. SO ALL THIS WILL HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED. IT MAY HAVE TO BE CUT OUT FROM SOMEWHERE; IT MAY HAVE TO BE PUT SOMEWHERE. DO YOU WANT ME TO DO EVERY THING ON THE FIRST DAY, OR YOU WANT TO CATCH ME NAPPING

SOME TIMES? WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO? I HAVE HAD  
RELATIONS WITH YOU; THEREFORE, I AM ASKING YOU.  
I HOPE YOU HAVE CHANGED THAT ANGLE AT ANY RATE.

CHINA:  
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Q: CHINA HAS WELCOMED YOUR PARTY'S VICTORY. WILL  
THERE BE ANY CHANGE IN YOUR POLICY TOWARDS CHINA?  
HAVE YOU ANYTHING IN MIND?

PM: AS I HAVE SAID, THERE IS NO QUESTION OF BEING  
ANY PARTICULAR THING ABOUT ANY COUNTRY. WE  
WANT TO BE FRIENDLY WITH ALL COUNTRIES, PROVIDED  
IT IS RECIPROCATED IN A PROPER MANNER. WE MUST  
HAVE RELATIONS OF EQUALITY. THAT IS WHAT WE SHOULD  
DO.SCHNEIDER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS CONFERENCES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, NONALIGNMENT  
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**Subject:** TRANSCRIPT OF FOREIGN POLICY SECTION OF DESAI'S PRESS CONFERENCE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, IN, (DESAI, MORARJI)  
**To:** GENEVA  
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